



COLLEGE REPORT

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You know, I keep marveling at the self-styled experts who keep issuing pronouncements about students, many of these experts being academicians, many of them administrators like myself, the self-same academicians and administrators that students have frequently so bitterly condemned for not knowing who students are.

Yet these academicians and administrators and many other so-called experts have experienced or felt no sense of distance, seem to suffer no inhibitions based upon a lack of knowledge or insight, and they continue to make their judgments and to issue their pronouncements. I marvel at this.

The students I have known over the years defy even the simplest kind of definition or description. Each one differs so uniquely from each other.

ONE OF them, for example, wore a big, beautiful, bushy beard—but he showered every day—and he wore shoes—and six months ago he died for his country in Vietnam.

One of them even considered himself to be a dedicated Marxist, but he was always the voice of intelligence, of caution and reason. He consistently urged other alternatives besides activism and demonstrations.

One of them considered herself a fully emancipated birth control pill woman who frowned puritanically upon sexual relationships not born out of the fabric of love.

BUT SO IT goes. Each one of these examples and countless others I could cite explode a popular mass media myth. Each one of these people, these students, contain within himself or herself the seeds of paradox and contradiction that defy generalization and easy definition and stereotyping. Each one, himself and herself, is a unique

Summer Programs Planned

Los Angeles high school and junior high school students will have an opportunity to "get involved" this summer through the Red Cross summer youth volunteer program.

"Across the country, youth have looked at their communities, have seen the gaps between what is and what could be, and have taken action that makes a difference in their lives and the lives of others," said Jerry Poe, Director, Red Cross Youth.

"Again this summer volunteer jobs will be available to students who want this kind of experience," he said.

This summer's activities will include: work with mentally retarded children through special activity programs, day camping; work with children with special problems of speech or learning by patient tutoring and creative play; working as aides in medical and mental hospitals and clinics; and developing cultural enrichment programs, including drama and music events, art shows, film festivals, and play mobiles.

Further information can be obtained by calling the Red Cross office in San Pedro.

'Happening' Art Maze On Display

The Fine Arts Gallery at Harbor College has been turned into a maze of mysterious passages for "A Happening in Environment," a psychedelic display created by college art students.

The exhibit is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Thursday, and 8 a.m. until noon Fridays, continuing through May 31.

Under the direction of design instructor Robert Stevenson, the students have set up flashing strobe lights and stereo speakers to create a psychedelic effect without the use of drugs.

tative of any group or any larger number of students. I only know that these are the students I worked with and grew to understand—and they are a different breed than students of even a decade ago.

PARTLY as a reaction to what they consider to be adult dedication to narrow, selfish pursuits, and partly an imitation of their professors, they have become more internationally minded and socially conscious. I'd say that possibly one in ten students in some colleges work off

campus in community service projects, tutoring the poor, fixing up slum dwellings, or singing and acting for local charities.

To the consternation of many adults, some students have become a force for social change far away from their college, to the Peace Corps in Bolivia or a picket line in another state. Pressured to be brighter than any previous generation, they fight to feel as useful as any previous generation. I've heard so many of them say, "I don't want to study, study, just to fill a hole in

some government or industrial bureaucracy." These students want to work out a new style of academic life, but they don't quite know how as yet. They are burying the rah-rah stuff, but what's going to take its place? They protest loudly against whatever they don't like—but they don't often come up with a program of reform. They're restless and an increasing number of them change colleges at least once during their undergraduate career.

JUST LIKE any of us who

are caught up in a swift transition, today's college students are often painfully confused and contradictory. A popular magazine poll last year that asked students whom they admired most found that many said "nobody." It's no longer unusual to find students on many campuses dressed in an ivy league, button-down shirt, farmer's dungarees, a French beret, and a Roman beard—all at once.

They argue against large bureaucracies, but most turn to the industrial giants when they look for jobs after graduation. They are critical of religion, but they desperately seek people, courses, and experiences that can reveal some meaning to them. In fact, campus chapels these days are fairly empty, but the religion courses are bulging with students.

I GUESS the hardest thing for most of us, students as well, is to reconcile that we live in a new era of rapid change; a new time when almost nothing stands still for very long. Today's there is a

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